

ARRANGEMENT IN A MULTI-HOMED TRANSPORT ENDPOINT FOR SELECTING A SOURCE ADDRESS BASED ON SOURCE-DESTINATION ADDRESS PAIR METRICS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multi-homed endpoint, having multiple interfaces with respective source addresses, selects a source address for transport of a message according to a prescribed multi-homed transfer protocol, based on source-destination address pair metrics, each source-destination address pair metric identifying link performance between a corresponding source address and a corresponding destination address. Each source-destination address pair is assigned a counter for tracking respective acknowledgements to messages output via the corresponding source-destination address pair. The multi-homed endpoint selects a source-destination address pair, for transport of messages, based on the corresponding metric identifying the highest relative link performance. Heartbeat messages are periodically sent for unselected source-destination pairs to maintain updated link performance metrics between the respective source-destination address pairs. Hence, the multi-homed endpoint can ensure selection of a link having optimum link performance based on the corresponding counter specifying the highest relative link performance for the corresponding source-destination address pair.